

REMARKS

Claims 13, 14, and 16-20 are active in this application.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Davis for the indication that the subject matter of Claims 13, 14, and 16-20 is allowable once the indefiniteness rejections have been overcome and once the limitations of Claims 1 and 15 have been properly incorporated. Applicants request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the amendments set forth herein.

The rejections of: (a) Claims 13, 14, and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, (b) Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, (c) Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, (d) Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, (e) Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are obviated by amendment.

Applicants note that the claims have been amended to address the Examiner's specific points of criticism. In view of the present amendments, these grounds of rejection are no longer believed to be tenable.

Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No. 50,552

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 08/03)